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Summary record of the 239th meeting
Held at the Palais Wilson, Geneva, on Friday, 1 April 2016, at 10 a.m.

Chair: Ms. Degener (Vice-Chair)

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In the absence of Ms. Cisternas Reyes, Ms. Degener, Vice-Chair, took the Chair.

The meeting was called to order at 10 a.m.

Consideration of reports submitted by parties to the Convention under article 35 (*continued*)

Initial report of Chile (continued) (CRPD/C/CHL/1; CRPD/C/CHL/Q/1 and Add.1)

1. *At the invitation of the Chair, the delegation of Chile took places at the Committee table.*

2. **Ms. Berner Herrera** (Chile) said that a bill on a system of safeguards of children's rights was currently before the National Congress. If adopted, it would provide for the comprehensive protection and exercise of the rights of children, in line with the national Constitution, the Convention and other international instruments ratified by Chile. It would also establish the responsibility of parents for the development, protection, guidance and upbringing of their children; recognize the right to equality and non-discrimination of persons with disabilities and the State's duty to identify groups of children requiring assistance so as to reduce or eliminate discriminatory barriers; introduce the obligation to make reasonable accommodation in the physical and social environment of children with disabilities; and recognize the right to health and the sexual and reproductive rights of children with disabilities. The bill highlighted the right of all children to live with and fully develop within their families and, in cases where that was not possible, to have access to fostering or adoption. It would also prohibit the use of disability as grounds for denying rights.

3. **Mr. Finsterbusch Romero** (Chile) said that under the Constitution, men and women were equal before the law and no arbitrary differences of treatment could be established in their regard. The Equal Opportunities and Social Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities Act provided for the elimination of all forms of discrimination on the grounds of disability, defined disability and established a special legal remedy for persons with disabilities whose rights had been violated. The Constitution provided for legal remedies in the case of arbitrary actions or omissions undermining the exercise of constitutional rights. An Act adopted in 2012 established measures to combat discrimination and contained a definition of arbitrary discrimination. That law also offered persons with disabilities a specific legal remedy in cases of discrimination. The Labour Code too provided for a remedy for acts of discrimination committed by employers against persons with disabilities. The Office of the Superintendent of Education had received 462 complaints of discrimination on the grounds of physical or intellectual disability, mainly relating to refusal of admission to the education system or a lack of inclusive infrastructure. In 2015, 100 complaints of discrimination on the grounds of disability had been filed, of which 20 had given rise to official school inspections and 11 had led to administrative sanctions against the establishments in question. The majority of the remaining cases had been resolved through mediation. The Government had taken steps to develop anti-discrimination policies and legislation as a part of its obligations arising from the Inter-American Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Persons with Disabilities.

4. The alleged perpetrators in the case of Mr. José Antonio Vergara Espinoza were currently in detention pending investigation and an individual had been found guilty of the offence of illegal detention in the case involving Mr. Luis Berrios Urra. The National Service for Persons with Disabilities (SENADIS) was working hard with the relevant local authorities to provide Ms. Valeria Riveros with all necessary support and would continue to do so. "Necessary accommodation" was the same as reasonable accommodation. The Equal Opportunities and Social Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities Act stated that reasonable

accommodation must be made for persons with disabilities in the context of all activities, policies, plans and actions for that group and strengthened the concept of reasonable accommodation in the fields of education, public facilities, justice and employment. A Ministry of Justice commission was currently working to revise, update and, in some cases, remove those provisions of the Criminal Code that discriminated against persons with disabilities. Any reforms adopted in that regard must be in line with a mechanism currently under consideration that would establish the full exercise of legal capacity in decision-making. The Code of Criminal Procedure included specific provisions for cases involving persons with mental illness. In such cases there were procedural safeguards such as restrictions on the imposition and duration of security measures, judicial oversight relating to their implementation and the prohibition of the use of imprisonment.

5. **Ms. Tapia Fuentes** (Chile) said that the nationwide register of accessible buildings had been established under legislation on accessibility that had since been superseded and that the register had last been updated in 2009. At the time, around 40 per cent of the 10,000 or so registered public-use buildings had complied with the regulations in force. The register had been discontinued with a view to its replacement with an updated version. Under the Equal Opportunities and Social Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities Act, the Government had a duty to take action to eliminate architectural barriers and to ensure that all public-use and community service buildings, new collective housing units, projects carried out in public spaces, public transport and public property access points were accessible to and usable by persons with disabilities, without assistance. The new General Ordinance on Town Planning and Construction contained regulations on universal accessibility. However, those regulations only applied to building permits obtained after 1994. Any constructions erected prior to that year were covered by the legislation previously in force. Owners of buildings that did not comply with the new regulations faced significant fines and even the closure of their premises. Owners of buildings constructed after 1994 had three years to carry out any adjustments required by the new legislation. Guidelines had been developed for the design of accessible educational establishments and public-use buildings. Persons with disabilities and their families were also granted extra housing benefits.

6. **Ms. Berner Herrera** (Chile) said that the public transport system in the metropolitan area of the capital city, Santiago, had been made much more accessible and work had been carried out to harmonize buses and bus stop signs and markings. Over 80 per cent of the Santiago bus fleet was equipped with accessibility features, and inspections were carried out to ensure that they were correctly installed. Bus interiors, bus stops and public transport hubs had been redesigned to better cater for the needs of persons with reduced mobility.

7. **Mr. Concha Gamboa** (Chile) said that SENADIS was working to identify technical needs in the health sector and to introduce audio-descriptive technologies into national parks and metro stations in Santiago to assist blind and visually impaired persons. Under the Equal Opportunities and Social Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities Act, television broadcasters must make provision for viewers with hearing impairments when they scheduled their programmes. Sign language did not currently have official status, but it was recognized as the natural means of communication of deaf persons. The Act also stated that public libraries must make provision for inclusive materials and infrastructure. SENADIS was currently working to train staff at the Santiago Library in the use of sign language and to install software to render the library's computers accessible to persons with disabilities. A bill on improving television subtitling and the use of sign language was currently before the National Congress. SENADIS was funding the nationwide broadcast of inclusive news programming, in collaboration with the Association of Deaf Persons of Chile. Discussions had been held on the provision of sign language interpreting for emergency broadcasts. A number of public information programmes on subjects such as housing had also been

produced with sign language interpretation and subtitles. Work was ongoing to ensure that sign language interpreters were properly qualified. Those efforts included cooperation with academics specializing in the use of sign language.

8. **Ms. Bravo Guzmán** (Chile) said that State officials had received training on the rights of persons with disabilities, the relevant national legislation, the Convention and sign language. Continuous efforts were made to ensure that all court buildings were fully accessible and to install new software on public access computers in family courts so as to allow visually impaired persons to seek information on legal procedures. Sign language interpreters were employed by the courts, and defendants with disabilities were provided with assistance when preparing for trial. A remote sign language interpreting service would be launched in the near future for courts that did not have such services available locally.

9. The accessibility standards also applied to prisons and police detention centres. Legal aid agencies had provided training to 300 members of the Carabineros (police) so that they would use appropriate language and treat persons with disabilities with decency. While persons with disabilities faced no legal impediments to accessing justice, in practice they faced obstacles owing to prevailing attitudes in the administration of justice. However, the Convention superseded domestic law, and the Government had taken various steps to require respect for the right of persons with disabilities to have access to justice and to punish individuals who failed to respect that right. A special procedure was in place whereby persons with disabilities whose rights had been infringed could bring a suit before the courts in the jurisdiction where they lived. The Anti-Discrimination Act provided penalties, including dismissal, for public servants who discriminated against people on grounds of disability and amended the Criminal Code so that it was considered an aggravating circumstance if a crime was motivated by a victim's disability.

10. In 2012, SENADIS had initiated a pilot programme to defend the rights of persons with disabilities whereby the persons concerned were given legal representation by the legal aid agencies, which, although there were only four, offered nationwide coverage. In 2015, the programme had become permanent and had been included in the State budget; it had been allocated some $470,000 for 2016. Over 1,500 cases had been brought under the programme so far, leading to the development of important case law. To cite some examples, an appeals court had recently found that a programme broadcast on public television had violated the Convention by mocking persons with Tourette Syndrome. Another court had found a school guilty of a serious violation of the Convention for expelling a 7-year-old student on the grounds of his disability.

11. No amendments had yet been proposed to change the derogatory language and discriminatory provisions of the Civil Code, but efforts were under way to repeal those provisions. A working group on legal capacity would very soon submit its report with a view to drafting an amendment bill. While some issues remained regarding legal capacity, steps had been taken, with the involvement of academics and other experts, to ensure the justiciability of rights. In some cases the courts had reinstituted persons' legal capacity so that they could choose a lawyer themselves. In others, mothers had regained their parental rights after losing custody of their children merely because they had disabilities. Chile remained committed to repealing discriminatory laws and ensuring that persons with disabilities had access to justice.

12. **Ms. Neculhueque Zapata** (Chile) said that deinstitutionalization measures had been taken since the late 1990s and that the National Mental Health Plan provided for the gradual closure of psychiatric hospitals and the establishment of a community-based mental health care network. The relevant legislation had to be revised and updated to meet the standards under the Convention. However, it did provide regulations for the committal of persons with psychosocial disabilities, thereby reducing the cases of arbitrary institutionalization by both families and the courts. As a result of the deinstitutionalization policy, the number of

individuals living in institutions had declined to 372, as many persons had been placed in homes run by the public health system. The persons who remained in institutions had, for the most part, severe disabilities or complex conditions.

13. In 2015, the Ministry of Health had conducted a feasibility study on the possibility of drafting a new law on mental health. It had subsequently decided to submit a bill on the subject to the National Congress. The drafting process would include consultations with organizations of persons with disabilities. The objectives of the bill would be to bring domestic legislation into line with current human rights standards; promote the rights of persons with mental disabilities; promote mental health through intersectoral preventive measures; ensure the provision of mental health care at the community level; ensure the social inclusion of persons with severe mental illnesses through housing, education and employment measures; safeguard the rights of mentally ill persons in conflict with the law; define a monitoring and evaluation mechanism; and guarantee public spending on mental health in order to remove discrepancies in coverage between State and private insurance plans and to ensure equal treatment of mental illness and other diseases.

14. **Ms. Berner Herrera** (Chile) said that the National Service for Minors was piloting a project on the deinstitutionalization of children with disabilities. The national disability survey was a household survey and thus had not covered institutionalized persons. However, all children living in centres, including those run by the National Service for Minors, were included in administrative registers. A national policy on disaster risk management had been developed, and a basic emergency card now made it possible to collect official data on persons with disabilities in affected areas along with information on their specific needs and to enter them into a database. The information was shared with other registries. The aim was to ensure the provision of appropriate support at all stages of recovery.

15. **Mr. Concha Gamboa** (Chile) said that the national policy on disaster risk management was being rolled out by the National Emergency Office and contained specific guidelines on how to provide services for persons with disabilities and members of other vulnerable groups. The National Emergency Office had developed seven videos on disaster prevention that included sign language interpretation, closed captioning and audio description and were available on YouTube and the websites of various government bodies. The Office had issued recommendations and preparedness manuals designed for all audiences. Its risk management efforts were based on the following principles: visibility of persons with disabilities and awareness of their rights; decentralization and the empowerment of regional entities; coordination among the various levels of government; and public-private partnerships. SENADIS played an active role in promoting consideration of the rights of persons with disabilities during implementation of disaster prevention measures. In addition, the Ministry of Education had adopted a school safety plan that dealt with disaster prevention and provided information on how to react during emergencies.

16. **Mr. Basharu** noted that according to the alternative reports, the linguistic identity of the deaf was under serious threat. The Government was reportedly pressuring families to sign their children up for cochlear implants so that they could then be sent to mainstream schools without sign language interpretation. Would the State party consider recognizing the linguistic identity of the deaf, provide sign language training to the parents of deaf children and enhance the services available for deaf-blind children?

17. **Mr. Kim** Hyung Shik asked what the State party's perspective was on inclusive education and what progress it had made in developing relevant policies. Community-based rehabilitation was about much more than merely health. The State party should describe its approach to such rehabilitation. Lastly, he asked whether the various measures put in place, such as protected work environments, job training and recruitment bonuses, had really had a noteworthy impact on the creation of employment opportunities, the payment of fair wages and the provision of decent working conditions for persons with disabilities.

18. **Ms. Kingston** asked about the accessibility of information on general health services, especially for visually-impaired persons. For example, was medication labelled in Braille? She expressed concern that reproductive and sexual health services were often inaccessible to persons with disabilities and that gynaecologists were inadequately trained to treat women with disabilities. The delegation should tell the Committee whether the basic sign language dictionary would be further developed and how discrimination against indigenous persons with disabilities was reflected in statistics. Lastly, she invited the delegation to comment on the State party's commitment to including persons with disabilities in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

19. **Ms. Peláez Narváez** said that she would like to know if there were plans to make sign language an official language in the State party and to officially recognize Braille as a form of writing. When would the national Braille commission be set up? How would training on sign language and Braille be provided to teachers? The delegation should provide more information about how inclusive education had been provided to autistic children and children with disabilities in the past and what would be done to ensure that special schools for persons with disabilities would comply with the principle of inclusive education. Were there differences in the social assistance available to persons living on the mainland in comparison with those living on islands? How much airtime would be set aside to broadcast the 2016 Paralympic Games on public television channels?

20. **Mr. Buntan** noted that each individual university in the State party reportedly set its own regulations for the provision of assistance and accommodation to students with disabilities. Had the State party put in place any measures to standardize the approach used by different educational establishments? He asked what measures the Government had introduced to ensure that persons in institutions were able to exercise their rights to vote and to participate in political life, including persons considered to be without legal capacity.

21. **Mr. Tatić** said that he had noted from the State party's report that a larger number of persons with disabilities attended special schools than mainstream schools and asked if the State party could provide an explanation for that phenomenon. He requested updated information on the funds made available for reasonable accommodation to provide students in mainstream schools with quality inclusive education. Regarding political campaigning, he asked how people with disabilities were able to exercise their rights under article 29 of the Convention. Specifically, was election material provided in accessible formats such as Braille? Were televised political debates subtitled and was sign language interpretation provided so as to enable persons with disabilities to make informed choices? The delegation should describe the steps taken to ensure that cultural sites and tourist attractions were accessible to persons with disabilities.

22. **Mr. You** Liang said that the eradication of poverty was essential in order to improve the participation of persons with disabilities in society. How was the State party planning to eradicate poverty? The Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) forum, of which Chile was a member, had set up a group of friends on disability issues with the objective of economically empowering persons with disabilities. How did Chile plan to be involved in the work of that group?

23. **Mr. Ruskus** said that he would like to know more about the early intervention and rehabilitation programmes and services available to those families that had disabled family members. On the subject of inclusive education, he requested further details on the measures taken to improve the skills of teachers, to develop individual educational plans for students with disabilities, to raise awareness among parents and guardians of the importance of inclusive education and to successfully manage diversity in the classroom.

24. **Ms. Quan-Chang** (Country Rapporteur) said that many women with disabilities in the State party had reportedly encountered serious difficulties when it came to child custody.

Often, they were deprived of custody for medical reasons. What specific measures were being taken, particularly in relation to the Civil Code and the concept of incapacity, to ensure that parents with disabilities were not victims of discrimination? The National Commission for the Protection of the Rights of Persons with Mental Illness had recently been set up in accordance with the law regulating forced institutionalization and consent for medical treatment. What criteria were used to nominate the Commission's members? Some of the members were reportedly not medical professionals, and in some cases the criteria had not been met for irreversible medical treatments that had been carried out. The disability pension supplement was paid only to those persons who could provide certification of their disabilities, and it was subject to a means test. What was the State doing to provide financial support to cover the additional expenses often incurred by persons with disabilities, such as for special equipment? The proposals and opinions issued by the SENADIS Consultative Council on Disability were reportedly not always taken into account. What steps were being taken to revise the role of the Council and to ensure that its opinions were more binding in nature?

The meeting was suspended at 11.40 a.m. and resumed at 12.05 p.m.

25. **Mr. Concha Gamboa** (Chile) said that discussions were under way, in the relevant government ministries and public bodies, on the possibility of sign language becoming an official language in Chile and on how to promote its use. The National Congress had approved accession to the Marrakesh Treaty to Facilitate Access to Published Works for Persons Who Are Blind, Visually Impaired, or Otherwise Print Disabled which, in conjunction with the Intellectual Property Act, would increase the availability of accessible published works in Chile. A law adopted in 2007 had introduced the concept of assisted voting and had enshrined the rights of persons with disabilities to vote in an independent manner. Assistance was provided where necessary, and polling stations were fully accessible to persons with disabilities. Some difficulties had been encountered with Braille polling cards, as only the registration numbers, and not the names, of the candidates had been included. However, the issue had since been resolved, in collaboration with the Electoral Service. There were plans to publish a guide to accessible tourism covering tourist attractions across Chile by the end of the year.

26. **Mr. Soffia Vega** (Chile) said that a new law on inclusive education had entered into force in March 2016. It stipulated that the State was required to provide inclusive education and to ensure that persons with disabilities were able to access schools. As part of the reform of the education system, a technical document was being drafted by the Ministry of Education, with input from civil society, to provide guidance on the admission of students with disabilities to mainstream schools. The Government implemented various programmes to support and integrate students with disabilities at all levels. For each student with disabilities, the State provided educational establishments with a subsidy payment three times higher than the standard subsidy. Schools received around $240 per month for each student with disabilities in full-time attendance and around $190 for those in part-time attendance. The most recent survey on enrolment, conducted in 2015, had shown that the number of students with disabilities attending mainstream schools had increased. A number of steps had been taken to ensure that public educational institutions were able to offer inclusive education. Specific resources and services had been provided, including sign language interpretation at schools with deaf students and digital resources and equipment to facilitate accessibility. A strategy to provide accessible texts for children with intellectual disabilities had been rolled out in 2013 and had since been extended to cover 150 schools and 4,000 students. The various legislative reforms taking place were complex, but they offered an excellent opportunity to reconsider and revise the rules governing both special and mainstream educational establishments. As for future actions, there were plans to raise awareness of inclusive education generally, to provide support for parents of students with

disabilities, to ensure teachers were properly trained and to involve professionals with disabilities in the reform process.

27. **Mr. Concha Gamboa** (Chile) stressed that the goal of SENADIS was to promote an inclusive society that respected the rights of persons with disabilities. SENADIS had two plans to assist students with disabilities in higher education. The first provided funding for such services as sign language interpretation and transcription and transportation; the second funded technical resources such as computer software for the blind and other assistive technology and devices. The number of disabled students in higher education had doubled in the past two years, and funding levels would match that increase. Agreements had been concluded with the National Kindergartens Board and the Integra Foundation, the two largest providers of preschool childcare, to ensure that early childhood education establishments would benefit from the services of specialists, including audiologists and occupational therapists, as well as training for their staff. Children with disabilities across the country would thus receive support from an early age. The SENADIS Consultative Council on Disability was working with the Ministry of Justice to overhaul legislation and replace insensitive terminology relating to disabilities.

28. **Ms. Bravo Guzmán** (Chile) said that the Government intended to repeal article 1447 of the Civil Code, which was outdated and contained objectionable wording. The provisions of the Convention took precedence over domestic law and could be directly invoked by the courts, for example in order to grant custody of children to parents and to order support services for them if necessary. The Government did not want to replace parents, but rather to assist them in fulfilling their parenting role. Family court judges were made aware of the desirability of granting custody to mothers with disabilities, if possible. Such decisions were taken on a case-by-case basis. Specialized lawyers could represent parents if they were denied custody in violation of the Convention.

29. **Ms. Neculhueque Zapata** (Chile) said that the Government was working to promote a rights-based approach to health care and that some progress had been made in the area of sexual and reproductive health. The law regulating rights and duties in respect of health care established that procedures of an irreversible nature, for example sterilization for contraception or for psychiatric purposes, required informed, written consent, and that patients had the right to withdraw consent at any time. In cases involving persons with diminished capacity, any such irreversible procedures had to be approved by the ethics committee of the establishment in question and the National Commission for the Protection of the Rights of Persons with Mental Illness. Persons with mental disabilities had the right to appeal in court against any decisions regarding their care. The ethics committees, which had existed since 2013, were interdisciplinary advisory bodies whose aim was to improve the quality of care and promote patient rights. The Commission, established in 2012, had been created to protect the health-care rights of persons with intellectual or mental disabilities, whether in the private or public health-care systems. The Commission was made up of two health-care professionals, a lawyer and representatives of the scientific and technical community, mental health commissions, mental health care users, families having family members with mental disabilities and the health authorities. The relevant legislation was being updated to strengthen the protection of the rights of persons with disabilities and enhance the roles of the ethics committees and the Commission.

30. **Ms. Terminel Salinas** (Chile) said that a bill was currently before the Senate that would define the types of discrimination that would violate the right to equal treatment in employment. The proposed law would prohibit any act that would lead to discrimination or preference on grounds of disability. The draft would also gradually remove provisions from existing legislation allowing for the free negotiation of work contracts between employers and persons with mental disabilities without regard for minimum wage rules and replace the pejorative term "mentally deficient" with "having a mental disability". The Equal

Opportunities and Social Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities Act established standards for reasonable accommodation measures to facilitate the integration of persons with disabilities in the workplace.

31. The Government had made inclusion a priority and promoted affirmative action measures for the employment of persons with disabilities. The "Mas Capaz" training programme had been launched in 2015 to facilitate equal access to the labour market for women and members of vulnerable groups, including young people and persons with disabilities. Some 20,000 persons with disabilities would receive training under that programme. In order to make sure that such training was effective, the National Training and Employment Service (SENCE) ensured that all courses were accessible and provided technical and other support for persons with various disabilities. To date, 3,221 persons had received such training.

32. The Ministry of Labour and Social Security was collaborating with SENADIS, the Ministry of Health and civil society to promote inclusion. A handbook on inclusion had been prepared to help local employment offices fill jobs without any differential treatment. SENCE would provide inclusivity training to 280 job centre staff, and bonuses would be awarded to staff who found employment for persons with disabilities. The Government also gave out prizes and awards in recognition of achievements by local authorities and the private sector in inclusive hiring. It would soon launch a programme aimed at ensuring that at least 1 per cent of jobs would be occupied by persons with disabilities with a view to eliminating discrimination and recognizing the contribution persons with disabilities could make to society. A report on progress made under that programme would be prepared every four years and submitted to the SENADIS Consultative Council on Disability.

33. **Ms. Berner Herrera** (Chile) said that a 50 per cent transportation subsidy was provided to persons with disabilities residing on the islands in the south of the country. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs would play the lead role in efforts to meet the Sustainable Development Goals, in consultation with other ministries, including the Ministry of Social Development, and also with civil society. The Government considered it crucial to achieve all the Goals and gave prime importance to the eradication of poverty. It was waiting for clarification from the United Nations on specific indicators to be used before establishing national measures. That notwithstanding, with a view to the eradication of poverty, work had already begun on an intersectoral solidarity programme that would provide support and financial measures based on an evaluation of the needs of individual households. Households with greater needs, for example those with family members with disabilities or elderly persons requiring extra assistance, would receive more help. Technical assistance would be provided in priority to families living in extreme poverty. Local support services were also provided by the Ministry of Social Development. The purpose of such programmes was to strengthen local services and promote independent community living without discrimination.

34. Persons with disabilities accounted for some 18.9 per cent of the indigenous population, a proportion similar to the percentage — 20.1 per cent — in the non-indigenous population. Indigenous relations were a priority for her Government. Two bills were currently before the parliament; one would establish a ministry for indigenous peoples; the other would create a council of indigenous peoples. Those entities would provide an institutional framework to strengthen the promotion of the rights of the indigenous peoples.

35. Work on the national household survey was continuing. The survey was an important tool for the socioeconomic classification of households. Those with persons with disabilities would be classified as having an increased need for support, in keeping with the additional financial burden of dealing with disabilities.

36. **Mr. Garretón Merino** (National Human Rights Institute of Chile) noted that the National Human Rights Institute had a mandate under the Paris Principles to play an advisory role and to conduct research in the area of human rights. It had no policymaking role, even with regard to natural disaster preparedness and response.

37. **Ms. Berner Herrera** (Chile) welcomed the fruitful dialogue with the Committee and noted the important contribution made to that dialogue by civil society organizations and the National Human Rights Institute. The establishment of the Ministry for Women and Gender Equality had been an important step toward promoting the rights of women, including women with disabilities. The Government would continue to monitor and mainstream disability issues in an intersectoral manner with a view to overcoming barriers, including prevailing attitudes, in order to achieve an inclusive society without discrimination towards persons with disabilities.

38. **Ms. Quan-Chang** welcomed the rich dialogue with the State party and thanked in particular the Chilean organizations of persons with disabilities for their contribution.

39. **The Chair** thanked the delegation for its frank and open answers to the concerns raised by the Committee and also welcomed the valuable contribution made by civil society stakeholders.

The meeting rose at 1 p.m.